



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Matassa et al.

Serial No.: 09/719,261

Case No.: ITR0020P

Art Unit: 1653

Filed: July 23, 2001

Examiner: Mondesi, Robert B.

For: PEPTIDE INHIBITORS OF HEPATITIS C
VIRUS NS3 PROTEASE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE

Sir:

Responsive to the office action mailed April 27, 2004, applicants request considerations of the **Remarks/Arguments** beginning on page 2 of this paper.

37 C.F.R. 1.8 Certificate of Mailing

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria VA 22313-1450, on the date appearing below.

MERCK & CO., INC.

By

Sheldon O. Heber

Date 8/16/2004

Sheldon O. Heber